Feature Article:

Native American Families and its Impact on Social Worker Well-Being

We are living in challenging and often unstable times. Many of us are carrying the weight of a pandemic on our shoulders, grappling with a national tragedy of mass violence, and struggling to make sense of the political and social events that surround us.

We are Native professionals, we are social workers, we are family members, we are friends, we are leaders, we are Native people. And we are all struggling to make sense of these times.

As survivors of these events our existence is resistance to the attempts of genocide and assimilation. Additionally, our existence and our connection to each other through difficult historical events that occurred all around the country during this time of year from the Sand Creek Massacre, the Dakota 38 - largest mass hanging of Natives in 1862, the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864, to the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890, the Sand Creek Massacre in 1892, the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, the Economic Impact of Indian Wars on Native People, the Indian Health Act of 1984, and the Indian Education Act of 1988.

Winter is historically a difficult season for many Native communities. At this time many of our loved ones depart and walk into spirit and those left behind must grieve the loss and carry on keeping their family and community together. At the same time, today's mainstream and social media bombard us with images that feed an 'us against them' bias toward Natives (see links and resources below). Engagement that includes intentional transparency, awareness of history, sensitivity toward family and cultural traumas are recommended and the support of ICWA compliance by integrating the prevailing and unique cultural standards of Native families.

As we look at the Standing Rock Sioux Nation’s battle to fight for and protect the future for our children on the Standing Rock Reservation, we looked towards the history and the history of race and power to find our strength. In the face of resistance, we have seen the power of spiritual strength, the power of community, the power of culture, and the power of our people. We have seen the power of the people who stand up for what is right and what is just.

We must embrace our traditions and cultural ways. We must then learn to share these practices in order to stay positive and allow miraculous teachings to occur. This type of work within our Indian communities is not measurable and does not have to be from a book. We have a responsibility to do good work and in order to do that we must be well. The Compassion Fatigue Awareness Project suggests practicing the art of self-care to prevent burnout and take time to restore ourselves, so we can fulfill affect our own safety, permanency, well-being and resilience. It is also at this time we need to practice self-management and organizing your life to become proactive instead of reactive. Begin by nurturing a positive view of yourself and your life. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you. As most Native professionals know, walking in two worlds requires a special kind of self-management regimen to ensure our relatives receive the highest quality services possible. "Well-being begins with you.

Below are relevant resources that may be helpful:

Preventing and Addressing Burnout
- http://www.icctc.org/
- https://www.ihs.gov/telebehavior/includes/themes/newihstheme/display_objects/doing_
- http://www.thebestbrainpossible.com/

Resources for well-being and self-care
- http://www.motivation1.com/newsletters/combatingBurnout.html - this is not as much
- http://www.helpguide.org/mental/burnout_signs_symptoms.htm
- http://www.recoverysupport.org/engagement/workerSelfCare/burnoutres

Standing Rock Helped Native Youth At Risk of Suicide

Fighting Suicide With Standing Rock

"As we look at the Standing Rock Sioux Nation’s battle to fight for and protect the waters of the Missouri River, we looked towards the history and the history of race and power to find our strength. In the face of resistance, we have seen the power of spiritual strength, the power of community, the power of culture, and the power of our people. We have seen the power of the people who stand up for what is right and what is just.

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TRIBAL STAR T4T Skill Building Institute Scheduled for March 13-14-15, 2018

The Tribal STAR T4T will focus on skill building for statewide ICWA trainers implementing the Tribal STAR training model. The training will be from 8am – 5pm, and nearly 100 in-person workshops will serve as ICWA trainers, facilitators, or support personnel. The training will be held at SDSU, 2155 Sayre Street, SW, Eighth Floor, Mancos, CO.

Sustainable Leadership Certificate Development continues with Center for Tribes and National Child Welfare Workforce Development Institute

This past spring the group met to discuss the development of their sustainability and initial partnerships for the Fall 2017 offering. The specific aims were to: (a) Build on the strengths of the Core 3.0 ICWA: Working with Native American Families and Tribes. Participants will experience the training from seasoned trainers and learn cultural immersion techniques. (b) Focus on skill-based classes that are designed to teach the Core 3.0: ICWA. Participants will be able to improve their skills in such areas as social work practice with American Indian and Alaska Native communities, cultural immersion, and ICWA training. The training will be held at the Tribal College Journal of American Indian Higher Education. Mancos, CO.

Tribal College Journal of American Indian Higher Education...Mancos, CO.

Nathanael J. García, Adrianna Torres.

Perspectives of Professionals on Treatment Foster Care Success.

Author: Administration for Children & Families

Number of children in foster care continues to increase. Already, there are more than 442,000 children in foster care, a 12% increase over the last decade according to Administration for Children & Families (ACF) data. This report presents findings from a study that is exploring whether extending the age of foster care past age 18 influence youth's outcomes during the transition to adulthood in this new era. The study was conducted by the ACF and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare.

Findings From the California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH): Adoption.

Findings from a study that is exploring whether extending the age of foster care past age 18 influence youth's outcomes during the transition to adulthood in this new era. The study was conducted by the ACF and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare.

Dismantling Racial Inequity #3: A Data-Driven Approach to Improving Outcomes for Black Youth

1250 Maryland Avenue, SW, Eighth Floor

Earth teach me to remember kindness ~ as dry fields weep with rain.

Earth teach me to forget myself ~ as melted snow forgets its life.

Earth teach me acceptance ~ as the leaves that die each fall.

Earth teach me freedom ~ as the eagle that soars in the sky.

Earth teach me limitation ~ as the ant that crawls on the ground.

Earth teach me strength ~ as the tree that stands alone.
The Indian Child Welfare Act A Family's Guide

Current Grants & Funding

- **Crafts Emergency Relief Fund:** Accepting applications from craftspeople in need. Grants will be awarded in support of efforts to advance justice and opportunity for Native Americans. **Deadline:** Rolling.
- **Public Welfare Foundation:** Accepting LOIs for social justice programs that address the social justice issues that are the most important to their communities. **Deadline:** Open.
- **Karma for Cara Foundation:** Accepting applications for grants that empower Native American youth to work toward higher education and a brighter future. **Deadline:** Open.

**Indian Community Development Block Grant Program**

- **Deadline:** Rolling
- **Information:** Grants will be awarded in support of efforts to advance justice and opportunity for Native Americans. Applications for Youth Philanthropy Projects are now open. Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to kids 18 and under for service projects in their communities. **Deadline:** Open.

**Indian Housing Block Grant Program**

- **Deadline:** Rolling
- **Information:** This NOFO will build upon the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country Justice Fund grant cycle are to support strategic collaborations that prioritize leadership development and allow Alaska Native communities to use their own voices to identify and implement solutions to reduce suicide rates among Alaska Native youth. **Deadline:** March 7, 2018.

**Tribal Practices for Wellness In Indian Country**

- **Deadline:** January 17, 2018
- **Information:** This NOFO will focus on building and sustaining tribal capacity for joint initiatives with a focus on creating and implementing a shared model illustrating how agencies and courts use a shared continuous quality improvement (CQI) approach to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families. **Deadline:** January 5, 2018.

**Promising Practices**

- **Disrupting Trauma:** This webinar will provide a trauma-sensitive approach to working with children and families, with a focus on the application of trauma-sensitive approaches to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families. **Deadline:** January 15, 2018.

**American Indian Graduate Center**

- **Information:** Grants will be awarded to kids 18 and under for service projects in their communities. **Deadline:** Open.

**I-LEAD**

- **Deadline:** Open
- **Information:** This program supports exploratory developmental research to improve Native American (NA) health. **Deadline:** Ongoing.

**Starter Snowball**

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**Public Welfare Foundation Accepting LOIs for Social Justice Programs**

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**Karma for Cara Foundation**

- **Information:** The Indian Arts Research Center at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, NM, collaborates with Native American artists to develop their careers, exploring how Native traditions and cultures can flourish in the contemporary arts world. **Deadline:** Open.

**Tribal STAR Training**

- **Information:** The Tribal STAR Training, offered by the Tribe of the Gila River, provides an intensive, week-long training on strategies for addressing child abuse and neglect. **Deadline:** Ongoing.

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Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA): Working with Native American Families and Tribes

Title: Services and Native American Family and Tribal Relationships

Date: April 5, 2018
Location: 22690 Cactus Avenue, Moreno Valley

Description: This training focuses on skill building to lead cross-cultural discussions that result in more trusting relationships with Tribal youth and families. The training allows organizations to focus on specific challenges and identify solutions.

Registration Information:
- Registration 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
- Training 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Note: pre-requisite to attend these trainings is a 60-90 minute eLearning on ICWA.

ICWA with Native American Families and Tribes

Title: Collaborative Training for Tribal Foster youth workers and Tribal Child Welfare Workers

Date: May 24, 2018
Location: 6505 Alvarado Road, San Diego

Description: The Collaborative is an adapted half-day training designed to introduce Tribal and non-Tribal child welfare workers to the challenges of serving Tribal foster youth. It covers a brief historical overview and concludes with recommendations that support increased tribal child welfare worker confidence and skill development.

Registration Information:
- Registration 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
- Training 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Note: pre-requisite to attend these trainings is a 60-90 minute eLearning on ICWA.

E-Learning

Title: Introduction to ICWA: Working with Native American Families and Tribes

Date: Next training: TBA
Location: Various locations

Description: This online training is an introduction to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and its impact on Native American families and tribes. Participants will learn about the purpose of ICWA, its impact on Native American communities, and best practices for working with Native American families and tribes.

Registration Information:
- Registration 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
- Training 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Note: pre-requisite to attend these trainings is a 60-90 minute eLearning on ICWA.

Note: documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) require Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.0 or higher to view, download Acrobat Reader.

Note: documents in Quicktime Movie format [.MOV] require Apple Quicktime, download Quicktime.

Note: documents in PowerPoint format (.PPT) require Microsoft Viewer, download PowerPoint.

Note: documents in Excel format (.XLS) require Microsoft Viewer, download Excel.

Note: documents in Word format (.DOC) require Microsoft Viewer, download Word.